

Message Text

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70

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

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TAGS: PFOR, ECON, EG, AU

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SUBJ: SADAT'S PRAISE FOR AUSTRIA AND AUSTRO-ARAB RELATIONS

REF: VIENNA 0971

1. SEVERAL AUSTRIAN NEWSPAPERS REPORTED ON MARCH 10 INTERVIEW OF EGYPT'S PRESIDENT SADAT WITH WEST GERMAN RADIO STATION IN WHICH SADAT LAUDED AUSTRIA'S "PROSPERITY SOCIALISM" (WOHLSTANDSSOZIALISMUS), WITH ITS "MIX OF LIBERALISM AND SOCIALISM," AS MODEL FOR EGYPT.

2. "KURIER" QUOTED SADAT AS FOLLOWS: "AS I SEE IT, THE ROAD THAT AUSTRIA IS TAKING IS THE RIGHT ONE--- I HAVE PERSONALLY SEEN PROSPERITY IN AUSTRIA. I HAVE SENT THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ARAB SOCIALIST UNION, THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, THE MINISTER OF HOUSING - IN SHORT, ALL WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE - ONE AFTER THE OTHER TO DR. KREISKY SO THEY CAN SEE THE AUSTRIAN EXPERIMENT. THAT TYPE OF SOCIALISM IS THE MOST APPROPRIATE FOR REBUILDING OUR COUNTRY... I BELIEVE THAT BRAND OF SOCIALISM SUITS US."

3. COMMENT: SADAT'S UNRESTRAINED PRAISE FOR AUSTRIA AND CHANCELLOR KREISKY APPEARS TO CONFIRM FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EGYPTIAN AND AUSTRIAN SOCIALIST REPORTED REFTEL. IT COMES ON EVE OF AUSTRIAN SOCIALIST PARTY CONGRESS THAT EGYPTIAN AND OTHER ARAB SOCIALISTS WILL ATTEND AS OBSERVERS AND OF THIRD KREISKY FACT-FINDING MISSION TO MIDDLE EAST FOR SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER, AS WELL AS IN MIDST OF AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISITS TO OMAN, QATAR AND UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND OF IMPORTANT AUSTRIAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION'S VISITS TO SAME COUNTRIES. SADAT'S REMARKS WILL NO DOUBT INCREASE ENTHUSIASM IN AUSTRIA, AND ESPECIALLY AMONG SOCIALISTS, FOR KREISKY'S EFFORTS TO FURTHER IMPROVE AUSTRO-ARAB RELATIONS AND SHOULD ENHANCE IMPACT, AT LEAST IN AUSTRIA, OF VARIOUS AUSTRO-ARAB CONTACTS NOW IN PROGRESS OR PLANNED.BUCHANAN

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